



North Carolina 911 Board

Dr. William Willis, Chair

Joseph K. Durham, Vice Chair

May 20, 2008

To: City / County Managers
Finance Directors
PSAP Managers

From: Richard Taylor
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RT", written over the printed name of Richard Taylor.

Re: NC 911 Board Updates to Use of 911 Funds
2007 Wireline Revenue Verification

The North Carolina 911 Board continued to refine and better define its "Approved 911 Expenditure List" at its May 9, 2008 meeting. Eligible PSAP expenses in G.S. 62A-46(c) focus on equipment. The Board interprets the applicable statutes to generally exclude employee salaries, because there is no language including salaries as eligible expenses.

The Board understands that each local government operating a PSAP determines how its 911 system will be operated. Further, that approaches differ for deploying 911 systems, and it is not the Board's purpose to dictate how 911 functions are to be accomplished. However, the Board must ensure that the 911 Fund is properly distributed and limited to eligible expenses.

The Board unanimously voted to repeal the previously approved policy language regarding FTE and contractual costs and replace it with the following language:

The costs for functions implemental to receiving and utilizing voice and data at the appropriate PSAP will be considered as an eligible 911 system expense. Any PSAP must provide adequate documentation upon request indicating the appropriate statutory authority supporting the cost of providing those functions.

www.nc911.net

P.O. Box 17209 • Raleigh, North Carolina 27619-7209
Tel: (919) 754-2942 • Fax: (252) 672-7582 • State Courier 51-0-11
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Examples of adequate documentation could include how total costs are determined for the allowable function, and how the function supports eligible expenses under G.S. 62A-46(c). Costs could be presented quantitatively on a “per thousand” or other measurement with the measurement shown as population, total 911 calls, total number of addresses, total number of streets, etc.

Other examples of adequate documentation could include the local government’s reasoning for choosing the selected method of accomplishing the necessary function.

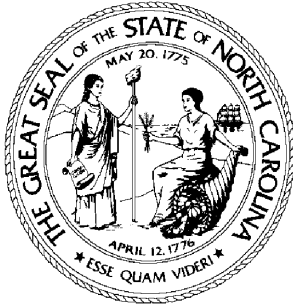
The Board also reviewed their previously approved policy regarding the use of 911 funds for street sign installation and street sign infrastructure maintenance. The review indicated that there is no statutory provision that allows for the use of 911 funds for this task and this policy was repealed.

Also enclosed is a copy of the revised “Eligible 911 Fee Expenditures” list which reflects the 911 Board’s latest actions. A copy of this list is also available on our website www.nc911.net.

Over the next six weeks, a representative from our office will be in contact with each local government agency to verify wireline 911 revenues for the period July 1, 2007 – January 31, 2008. These will be the 911 funds collected by the wireline carriers for services billed from July 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.

This verification will assist the 911 staff ensuring proper disbursement of the “new” 911 fees to match the revenues your agency received in fiscal year 2006-2007. Your assistance in having this information readily available when contacted will expedite the year end fund disbursements from the 911 Board.

Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me via email at richard.taylor@its.nc.gov or by telephone at 919-754-2942.



BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, BUT NOT LIMITATION, THE FOLLOWING COSTS ARE 911 FUND ELIGIBLE (as approved by the North Carolina 911 Board on 2/08/2008):
IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT EXPENDITURES NOT LISTED, PLEASE CONTACT THE 911 BOARD STAFF

ELIGIBLE 9-1-1 FEE EXPENDITURES

Revised April 11, 2008

Revised May 9, 2008

Phone Systems:

911 trunks and one administrative line per answering position in a primary PSAP

Telephones sets used to answer 911 calls, including CPE equipment, headsets, monitor, keyboard, mouse and servers used exclusively for telephone sets; when servers host both 911 eligible and ineligible applications, only the percentage of the cost of the server representing the 911 eligible use is allowable

Call Detail Printer or Call Detail Record (CDR) which provides the historical list of 911 calls, this is not a CAD printer

TDD/TTY (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf/Telephone Typewriter)

Automatic Call Distributions Systems (ACD) whether facilities based or premise based

Interpretive Services (e.g. Language Line or Omni Lingual)

Service provider selective routing and ALI provisioning charges

A percentage of FTE (full time equivalent) or contractual costs to provide telephone system maintenance until June 30, 2008 (*May 9, 2008*)

The costs for functions implemental to receiving and utilizing voice and data at the appropriate PSAP be considered as an eligible 911 system expense. Any PSAP must provide adequate documentation upon request indicating the appropriate statutory authority supporting the cost of providing those functions (*May 9, 2008*)

Furniture:

Cabinets, tables or desks that actually hold eligible 911 equipment; when non-eligible 911 equipment is also being used on the cabinets, tables or desk, then a percentage of the 911 eligible portion is applied to the total cost

Software:

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system modules that are part of the call taking process only. Some CAD systems will include many additional modules that are not a part of the 911 process and are not eligible

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that are used to create and display the base map showing street centerlines

Photo Imagery used for maintaining mapping systems such as Ortho or Oblique images. Either imagery solution is acceptable but only one is permissible in a four year cycle

Voice logging recorder software

Law enforcement, fire and medical protocols including software & flipcards
(April 11, 2008)

ALI database software

Software licensing costs

A percentage of FTE (full time equivalent) or contractual costs to provide software maintenance until June 30, 2008 (May 9, 2008)

The costs for functions implemental to receiving and utilizing voice and data at the appropriate PSAP be considered as an eligible 911 system expense. Any PSAP must provide adequate documentation upon request indicating the appropriate statutory authority supporting the cost of providing those functions (May 9, 2008)

Hardware:

Servers used exclusively for Telephone, CAD, voice logging recorder, and GIS software systems.

When servers host both 911 eligible and ineligible applications, only the percentage of the cost of the server representing the 911 eligible use is allowable

Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) for 911 only related equipment. If a UPS serves more than 911 equipment, then only a percentage of 911 eligible equipment served is allowable

Emergency Power Generator that serves the 911 center. If a generator serves more than the 911 center, then only a percentage of the total cost that serves the 911 center is allowable

A percentage of FTE (full time equivalent) or contractual costs to provide hardware maintenance until June 30, 2008 (May 9, 2008)

The costs for functions implemental to receiving and utilizing voice and data at the appropriate PSAP be considered as an eligible 911 system expense. Any PSAP must provide adequate documentation upon request indicating the appropriate statutory authority supporting the cost of providing those functions (May 9, 2008)

Addressing:

Street sign installation and street sign infrastructure maintenance until June 30, 2008 (May 9, 2008)

A percentage of FTE (full time equivalent) or contractual costs to provide addressing maintenance until June 30, 2008 (May 9, 2008)

The costs for functions implemental to receiving and utilizing voice and data at the appropriate PSAP will be considered as an eligible 911 system expense. Any PSAP must provide adequate documentation upon request indicating the appropriate statutory authority supporting the cost of providing those functions (May 9, 2008)

Training:

911 funding is allowed for individual class registration for maintenance and operation of the 911 system and specific 911 intake and related call taking training

Allowable travel expenses shall not exceed the local government or State of North Carolina per diem rates

Out of state training will be considered permissible if the class is not offered in North Carolina six months prior to, or six months after the scheduled out of state class. (April 11, 2008)